



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

HOSPITAL AND TRAINING SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

IN CHARGE OF
ALICE SHEPARD GILMAN, R.N.

READJUSTMENT OF TRAINING SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS

BY ELIZABETH A. GREENER, R.N.

(Continued from page 410)

Hospital trustees have been torn between conflicting desires. They have felt it to be their duty to train large numbers of nurses in order to satisfy the public demand; and in seeking to enroll large numbers of probationers in the hospital schools, they have undoubtedly been influenced also by the hospital's own nursing needs. Compelled by financial necessity, they have at times opposed what nurses have regarded as just demands for improvement in working conditions; and without claiming to be expert in matters of nursing education, they have nevertheless demanded that they be recognized as the responsible managers of training schools.

And so, during the past decade, there have been two and sometimes three, forces arrayed against each other in the struggle to readjust and improve nursing service in and out of hospitals. Opinions have clashed, but there has been no meeting of minds; the result has been confusion of thought, and effectual interference with progress. Under these conditions, one looks forward eagerly to the effort, through the American Conference on Hospital Service, to debate the issue fairly and to develop a program which will come reasonably near to meeting all essential requirements.

In his public formulation of a program for the committee work of the Conference, at Cincinnati in September, the spokesman for the Conference indicated what might reasonably be expected of a committee composed of nursing, professional, and lay elements, and publicly advised that in the deliberations of such a mixed committee, the representatives of the nursing profession be permitted to lead. I am advised that in the Executive Session of the Conference itself, this view prevailed, and that either the League of Nursing Education or the American Nurses' Association will be invited to assume the Chairmanship of the committee which is to consider nursing matters on behalf of the Conference, and which is expected to make its first report at Chicago in March, 1920.

Might it not be wise to attempt to bring about the organization of similar mixed committees in each of the States? The appalling lack of unity of mind and purpose in New York State is surely a striking example of such a need. If the medical, nursing and representative lay forces of the State could be prevailed upon to combine thought and effort and lay aside personal jealousies and petty differences of opinion, there is nothing in the line of progress and advancement which would not be comparatively easy of accomplishment.

Since the proper expansion of nursing education calls for greatly increased expenditures on the part of the hospital, how shall sufficient funds be secured for this purpose? I know that if Miss Nutting were allowed to have a word at this point she would say with great emphasis, "by special endowments for training schools." One must say in regard to such a plan that wherever it can be accomplished, it is ideal. Unfortunately, at the present moment, many schools could not secure immediate endowments at all adequate to their needs. Therefore, it would appear that the only logical way in which to meet the increased expense of both hospital and training school is by community or municipal support in the same manner in which our public schools are maintained.

Until very recently, hospitals and training schools, throughout the country have struggled alone with the responsibility of the education and training of the nurse. It has taken years of education and a great war to awaken us to the fact that the health and welfare of the nation depend largely upon the attitude of the general public concerning medical and nursing education and control. A recent writer on this subject has said, "Not even our public school system is of any more importance to the future welfare of the country than is the organized work of Public Health Nursing. From the cradle to the grave our people take no important step in which they do not at once feel the importance of this group. We cannot soberly contemplate the huge health problems of the war and their future readjustments without trembling at the risk we run in not preparing more fully and intelligently to meet such needs."

The general public to-day is demanding that training schools shall graduate efficient and properly trained nurses capable of performing their important work in the nursing care and health education of the community. An editorial in the *New York Evening Sun*, October 17, said: "One of the biggest jobs undertaken by anybody in New York is that of the Health Nurse. She attempts to teach our citizens 'how to get the best kind of living conditions out of the circumstances that surround them.' Could the wisest man in the world do more?"

Surely it is not unreasonable for us to expect that a community which requires service of so broad and varied a character from its graduate nurses be also sufficiently intelligent to realize that progress and development in our schools of nursing can only be assured when adequate financial support is obtained, and when schools of nursing are granted the recognition afforded other educational organizations. Then, and not until then, will the training schools be enabled to give a dignified and suitable preparation to the young women of superior intelligence and ability who will only enroll for such work when many of our present obsolete methods are eliminated, and when nursing education becomes an actuality and not merely a name.

THE SAND BAG AS AN AID IN X-RAY WORK

BY E. BLANCHE SEYFERT, R.N.

U. S. Naval Hospital, Washington, D. C.

The following suggestion, given me by a roentgenologist, in an Army Base Hospital, may be appreciated by some one else as it was by me, so I want to pass it along.

In making X-Ray plates, one of the most useful articles that I had at hand was the sand bag. Stationed near the beach, where good sand could be procured, I made three pairs of bags grading from 8 in. by 8 in., 8 in. by 4 in., 10 in. by 4 in. I made the bags of canvas and then covered them with rubber sheeting, so that if soiled they could be washed off.

Taking a strip of strong muslin and folding to make a strap 2 in. wide by 72 in. long, I pinned loops in the end of the strap and could thus insert the bags through the loops.

When making an exposure of the foot, all one had to do to steady the part, was to throw the strap over the limb, letting the bags hang over the edge of the table. If skull plates were wanted, again the strap across the forehead, bags hanging, was one of the best methods for stability for an eight to ten-second exposure necessary in cranium work, and the strap did not in any way interfere with the exposure by casting shadows, etc. In making exposure it was a rare occasion when it was necessary for any worker to expose himself unnecessarily to the rays by having to hold the part steady, which to me is a factor worthy of notice.